

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 22 and 27 are canceled.

Claims 28-49 are new.

Support for each new and amended claim is found at the originally filed claims and throughout the specification.

Upon entry of the amendment, Claims 1-21, 23-26, and 28-49 will be active.

No new matter is believed to have been added.

Applicants thank Examiner Zimmer for indicating that Claims 4 and 6 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants respectfully traverse the 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejection of Claims 1, 3, 7-8, 10-11, and 13-21, as being anticipated by Kato (US 5,783,260). Claims 1, 11, and 21, have been amended to add that limitation: "wherein the article is an optical recording medium or a magneto-optical recording medium." Applicants respectfully submit that Kato does not describe or suggest this claim limitation, and that the claims are therefore not anticipated by, or obvious under, Kato. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The 35 U.S.C. 102(e) rejection of Claims 1, 3, 7, and 8, as being anticipated by Kamitani (US 6,465,108), is respectfully traversed because Kamitani does not describe or suggest the limitation: "wherein the article is an optical recording medium or a magneto-optical recording medium" as recited, for instance, in Claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

The 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejection of Claims 1, 3, 5, 8, 11, 13-14, 16-18, and 21, as being anticipated by (Kashiwabara JP-290639), is respectfully traversed because Kashiwabara does not describe or suggest the limitation: "wherein the article is an optical recording medium or

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a magneto-optical recording medium” as recited, for instance, in Claims 1, 11, and 21.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Applicants respectfully traverse the 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) rejection of Claims 2, 12, and 22, as being obvious in view of Kato.

The rejection of Claim 22 is obviated by cancellation of Claim 22.

Claims 2 and 12 depend from Claims 1 and 11, respectfully. Claims 1 and 11 contain the limitation “wherein the article is an optical recording medium or a magneto-optical recording medium.” Because this limitation is not described in Kato, Applicants submit that Kato does not suggest or describe the instant invention and that the rejection should be withdrawn.

Additionally, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner’s characterization that it would be obvious to coat other substrates with the coating as described in the instant invention.

Applicants note that the optical recording medium and a magneto-optical recording medium are complex and comprise plural layers (for example a recording layer, a reflecting layer, etc.) on a substrate (for example, a polycarbonate resin). Thus, an optical recording medium and a magneto-optical recording medium are more complex than the resin substrate described in Kato, the substrate described in Kamitani, and the metal or glass substrate described in Kashiwabara.

Further, the demands, for precise recording and reproducing of information of the optical recording medium and the magneto-optical recording medium of the present invention require that these articles be precisely coated (in terms of coating composition, thickness, etc) to function correctly. The glass substrate of, for instance, Kashiwabara is not as complex and does not, therefore, have such demanding coating parameters.

Finally, Applicants respectfully traverse the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejections of Claims 1, 11-14, 16-18, and 22, as being obvious in view of Kamitani.

The rejection of Claim 22 is obviated by cancellation of Claim 22.

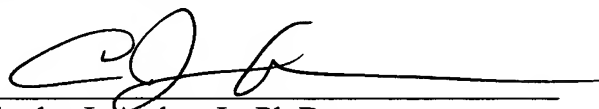
Kamitani does not describe or suggest the limitation "wherein the article is an optical recording medium or a magneto-optical recording medium," and therefore does not meet the standard required for an obviousness rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Further, the demands, for precise recording and reproducing of information of the optical recording medium and the magneto-optical recording medium of the present invention require that these articles be precisely coated (in terms of coating composition, thickness, etc) to function correctly. The substrate of, for instance, Kamitani is not as complex and does not, therefore, have such demanding coating parameters. Because of this Applicants submit that the preferred thickness of the water repellant layer would not be obvious, as postulated by the Office.

Applicants submit the present application is now in condition for allowance and early notification thereof is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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